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constitutional ideas more noteworthy than during the whole of the Victorian era. From 1837 to 1901 was an era which added little to the world's scanty store of political or constitutional ideas. The same remark, Dr. Dicey is convinced, applies in one sense to the years that have passed since the opening of the twentieth century; for woman suffrage, proportional representation, federalism and the referendum—the constitutional ideas he discusses in the introduction—are, he holds, for the most part not original. Their novelty consists in the new interest which during the last fourteen years they have come to command. Of most interest in this discussion is Dr. Dicey's statement of the case for and against federalism. New schemes for bringing the empire into closer and more intimate relations will assuredly be put forward and strongly pressed at the end of the war. The advocates of federalism as a solution of the problems that will then confront the empire will find no support for their theories in Dr. Dicey's detailed discussion of its possibilities and limitations as applicable to Great Britain and the oversea dominions. E. P.

Intervention and Colonization in Africa. By NORMAN DWIGHT HARRIS, with an introduction by James T. Shotwell. (Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company. 1914. Pp. xviii, 384.)

The close of the 19th century witnessed a remarkable revival of the spirit of imperialism. The foreign policies of the chief European states again took on the form of colonial rivalries and aggrandizement. In his recent work on *Intervention and Colonization in Africa*, Professor Harris has given us a most interesting description of one phase and perhaps the most important one, of this world-wide movement. The author has been singularly successful in bringing out the complex elements which have entered into the wild scramble for the partition of the unclaimed territories of that vast continent. The history of this movement is indeed a remarkable record of diplomatic intrigues, heroic explorations and administrative achievements and failures.

Professor Harris is able to enter into the spirit of this struggle with the greater zest as he is himself a thorough-going imperialist. He assumes the legitimacy of colonization almost without question. He is much more interested in the rivalries of the European powers than in the efforts of the native races to preserve their own soil and independence. He is, however, a benevolent imperialist. Although tempted at times to judge of the success of a colony too much from the

standpoint of its economic progress, he is not forgetful of the primary responsibility of the colonial authorities for the promotion of the moral and social well being of the natives.

The historical and geographical aspects of the subject likewise appeal to him far more strongly than do questions of practical administration. The author is at his best when dealing with the splendid achievements of the modern conquistadors. Only here and there do we find an attempt to deal with the serious problems of colonial government, such as questions of land policy, labor legislation, the relations of the races and the future of the black population. Such opinions as he does express as to the régimes of the respective colonies are marked by moderation and impartiality of statement. He has formed a favorable judgment of British and French administration especially in Northern Africa but is somewhat doubtful as to the success of the German and Belgian colonies. On one point only are his opinions open to serious question and that is in respect to the government of the chartered corporations, particularly the South African Company. It is very doubtful indeed, if the settlers of Rhodesia are as appreciative of the advantages of the company's rule as the author appears to be.

But the skilful handling of the narrative cannot conceal some of the manifest defects of the work. The subject is an intricate, complicated one; from its very nature it demands the most careful and comprehensive scholarship; and we cannot but feel that the author has turned out this study too hurriedly. He has been so much absorbed by the dramatic succession of events that he has not taken the time to fill in the more prosaic historical and sociological background of his subject. His analysis of the political and economic factors out of which the colonial movement arose is good as far as it goes, but is quite insufficient as a foundation for a study of world diplomacy. The treatment of the diplomatic phase of the subject is equally unsatisfactory. We get but an impressionistic sketch of the international drama. Professor Harris has made good use of the English parliamentary papers and to a less degree of the French official publications, but he has almost entirely neglected to consult the official documents of other countries. In the absence of these most important sources of information, he has been obliged to fall back upon the *London Times* and other secondary material. The result has almost necessarily been to give a somewhat partial and inconclusive presentation of some of the matters in controversy, particularly in regard to the Moroccan question.

But the most serious defect of the book is to be found in the lack

of scientific accuracy. The author has gathered together a vast mass of valuable data, but he has failed to check up and assimilate all of his material. His knowledge of the course of English colonial history and government is particularly at fault. It is strange indeed that the author should have made the mistake of confusing the introduction of representative institutions into the colonies with the grant of responsible government. The chapter on the South African Union reveals a similar lack of familiarity with some of the leading facts of the constitutional history of that group of colonies, as, for example, in respect to the stormy administration of Sir Bartle Frere. The formation of the South African Union is certainly of sufficient importance to have merited something better than a hasty and superficial consideration. Yet the author has overlooked most of the literature upon the subject; he does not even refer to *The Government of South Africa*, or Walton's *The Inner History of the National Convention of South Africa*, to mention but two of the most important books dealing with the union.

These limitations and defects undoubtedly detract from the scientific value of the work, but they by no means destroy its inherent worth. The book was evidently prepared for the general public and it is admirably adapted to serve this general purpose. It furnishes us by all odds the most readable and illuminating account that we today possess of the opening up of the African continent. There was a popular demand for just such a work; and Professor Harris has abundantly satisfied that demand. In so far as the author has fallen short of producing a final and authoritative treatise he has failed because he has attempted too much in the compass of a single volume. But he has prepared the way for a more comprehensive treatment. The intricate details of European diplomacy and the problems of colonial administration can be worked out more carefully later. Meanwhile, we shall look forward with pleasant anticipation to the appearance of the promised complementary volume on European extension and competition in Asia.

C. S. ALLIN.

The Legislative Union of England and Scotland. By P. HUME BROWN. (Oxford: The Clarendon Press. 1914. Pp. xii, 208.)

Prof. Hume Brown, in his introductory chapter to *The Legislative Union of England and Scotland*, remarks on the ignorance of Scotsmen